

Libyan officers defect, Sudan says

KHARTOUM (R) — Ten Libyan army officers defected to Sudan and said they had joined a Libyan opposition group, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported Monday. SUNA said the officers, from the Libyan Military Industry corporation, were on a two-year training course in West Germany and came to Sudan on Saturday. The agency said the defectors had joined "the National Front for the Salvation of Libya," a group opposed to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. SUNA did not disclose the names or ranks of the officers nor gave any details of their defection and said they would give a news conference on Thursday. Sudan and Libya are at loggerheads because of sharp political differences. Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri has repeatedly accused Col. Qadhafi of inciting trouble inside Sudan to topple him, a charge which Libya denies.



PLO rebels stage armed assault

DAMASCUS (R) — Palestinian mutineers tried to storm a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) commando base near Damascus but were repelled after a gunbattle with fighters loyal to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, the base's commander said Monday. The training camp's commander, who declined to be named, said two defenders had been wounded in the 15-minute shoot-out during the daylight assault on the training camp Sunday. The camp which came under attack is about 500 metres from one of six PLO supply depots seized by the mutineers last Saturday as they stepped up their three-week-old revolt against Mr. Arafat's moderate leadership. Armed Palestinian guards were posted on rooftops and in the trees surrounding the camp. The scars of automatic rifle fire were visible on walls.

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Hassan returns

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned home Monday at the end of a short private visit to Britain. Prince Hassan was met at the airport by His Majesty King Hussein. Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khammash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Islamic Justice Ibrahim Al Qattan, Interior Minister Ahmad Obaidat and a number of officials.

U.K. airlines to be banned from Qalandiya

TUNIS (R) — The British government has decided to ban its airlines from using the Qalandiya airport in occupied Arab Jerusalem. Arab League sources said Monday. The decision was made in light of the efforts made by the council of Arab ambassadors in London to explain to the British officials that the measure which the Israeli occupation authorities intend to apply by expanding the airport and making it an international airport is an illegal measure and is in violation of United Nations resolutions in this respect, the sources said.

Israelis warned against bread, juices

AMMAN (J.T.) — Israeli soldiers in Lebanon have been warned against buying pita bread and soft drinks locally for fear that they may contain booby traps, the Jerusalem Post reported Monday. The newspaper added that in a number of recent incidents Israeli soldiers home brought food supplies, especially fruit juice which had been booby trapped with explosives.

Abu Iyad, Sabah hold talks

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah Monday discussed the situation in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member Salah Khalat. Mr. Khalat, who is also known as Abu Iyad, told reporters after the meeting that he had briefed Sheikh Sabah on what he called the latest problems within the Fateh movement, the mainstream Palestinian faction.

Iraqis destroy 'naval target'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi planes attacked and destroyed "a large enemy naval target" at the northern tip of the Gulf in the war with Iran, a military communiqué said Monday.

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Syria-Israel tension eases but guerrilla attacks mount

BEIRUT (R) — Tension between Syrian and Israeli forces entrenched in eastern Lebanon abated Monday but commando attacks on Israeli troops appeared to be on the increase.

The Israeli army said there were four such attacks Sunday, including one near the mountain town of Bhamdoun in which two soldiers were killed and three wounded.

Lebanese radio stations said the front line in the eastern Bekaa Valley was quiet. For the first time in three days, there were no reports of Israeli reconnaissance planes being fired on from Syrian-controlled areas.

Israel put its forces on high alert after Syrian manoeuvres in the Bekaa and an aerial confrontation with the Syrians on Wednesday — the first for almost a year. Damascus said the exercises ended on Saturday.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa said the "Lebanese National Resistance Front" was responsible for the "dramatic escalation of military operations against Israeli invading forces."

The front is an organisation believed to be made up of Lebanese leftist parties who fought alongside Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces.

Rising concern in Israel

The attacks have led to rising concern in Israel that the army is becoming bogged down in a virtual war of attrition against Palestinian commandos operating from behind Syrian lines.

Israel, which has repeatedly vowed not to get entangled in such a conflict, has reported an upsurge of commando activity this month, resulting in the loss of seven soldiers and 61 wounded.

The latest casualties came Sunday when two military vehicles were hit by bazooka and small arms fire in an ambush on a winding road south of the Shouf mountain town of Bhamdoun.

The army said two sergeants were killed and three men wounded, and blamed it on "terrorists."

Three other smaller incidents were reported Sunday.

The latest attacks came as tension appeared to be easing along the Syrian-Israeli ceasefire lines in central and east Lebanon following the completion of the Syrian exercises.

Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Simcha Ehrlich said Monday that Israel would not put up with Syria allowing commando activity from its territory against Israeli forces in Lebanon.

Speaking during a tour of northern Israel, Mr. Ehrlich said that in the past there had been an agreement under which Syria prevented such operations from being controlled.

"This agreement must continue to be observed," he said.

Israeli military sources said a prolonged period of "up and down tensions may lie ahead."

They voiced particular concern about the situation near the Beirut-Damascus highway, saying that because of the difficult terrain there was less Syrian control of the commandos.

Israeli newspapers spoke of fears that Syria might condone increased harassment of Israeli forces to ram home its opposition to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement on withdrawing foreign forces from Lebanon.

So far Israel has imposed no deadline for implementing the agreement for withdrawing from Lebanon, which is dependent on the Syrians also leaving.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, on a tour of West

Europe, was reported to have said in Brussels that the government was "not going to wait indefinitely. We have several other options."

Mr. Shamir said these included a redeployment of Israeli troops to safer positions in South Lebanon. Israeli military sources said if this happened Israel would almost certainly contact the U.S. and Lebanese governments and no such contacts had started.

A United Nations spokesman said that a Fijian soldier serving with the U.N. peace-keeping troops in South Lebanon was shot dead after an argument at a checkpoint with a member of the Lebanese militia of Saad Haddad on Sunday.

State-run Beirut Radio reported that a group of Palestinians fired a single Katyusha rocket early Monday morning near the town of Ghazze, about five kilometres behind the front line.

Quoting its local correspondent, the radio said it was not known where the rocket landed. Syrian troops confiscated the launching pad and drove the commandos off, it said.

Wafa, in a report received in Nicosia, said: "Attacks on Israeli troops have occurred throughout the whole breadth of Lebanese territory occupied by Israel."

United Nations or wage a popular liberation war."

He gave the interview to Qatari editors visiting Beirut last week. Commenting on recent tension in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, Mr. Wazzan said Lebanon had not expected what he called a Syrian escalation of the situation.

"But, there has been little time to hold high-level consultations to let things take shape," he added.

The premier was quoted as saying that at the start of the U.S.-sponsored negotiations between his country and Israel, he had rejected an offer by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin for a meeting in occupied Jerusalem.

'Beirut may seek Arab help'

DOHA (R) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan was quoted Monday as saying his government would enlist Arab help or wage a popular liberation war if Israel did not withdraw from Lebanon's territory.

In an interview published in the daily Al Rays and Al Arab papers here, Mr. Wazzan was quoted as saying: "We have submitted a memorandum to the United States stating our position."

"If Israel does not withdraw, we will consider the agreement on troop withdrawal invalid and will use all means to secure a withdrawal. This means we will enlist the help of our Arab brothers, the

Economic summit backs U.S. Euromissile policy

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia (R) — Leaders of the world's major Western industrial nations have firmly endorsed President Reagan's policy on nuclear missiles in Europe.

The seven-nation summit issued a declaration Sunday expressing support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) plans to deploy 572 U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe later this year unless the Soviet Union agreed to dismantle all its SS-20 missiles in the region.

But the leaders added that they were committed to work together for meaningful negotiations with the Soviet Union on reducing the number of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Reagan had pushed his colleagues to send Moscow a strong signal in response to its statement on the eve of the summit that it would build more missiles and might move them closer to the West if the United States installed its missiles in Europe.

But he did not win his victory easily. The Canadians, French and Japanese held up release of the declaration for nearly seven hours as they voiced concern about its

precise language and format.

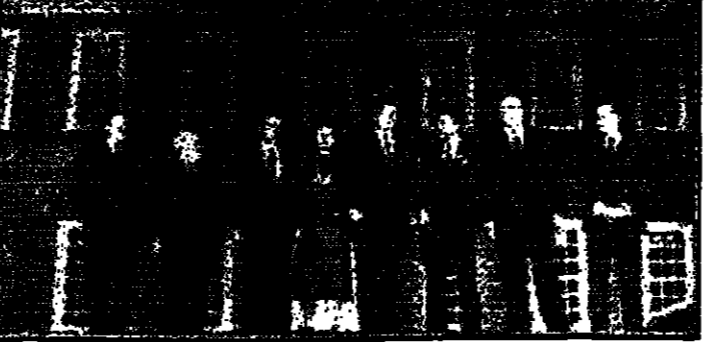
U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz described the statement as a message to the people of the world about the determination of the United States and its allies not to submit to Soviet threats while displaying willingness to negotiate seriously on arms control.

Flanked by the foreign ministers of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada, he told reporters: "Attempts to divide the West... will fail."

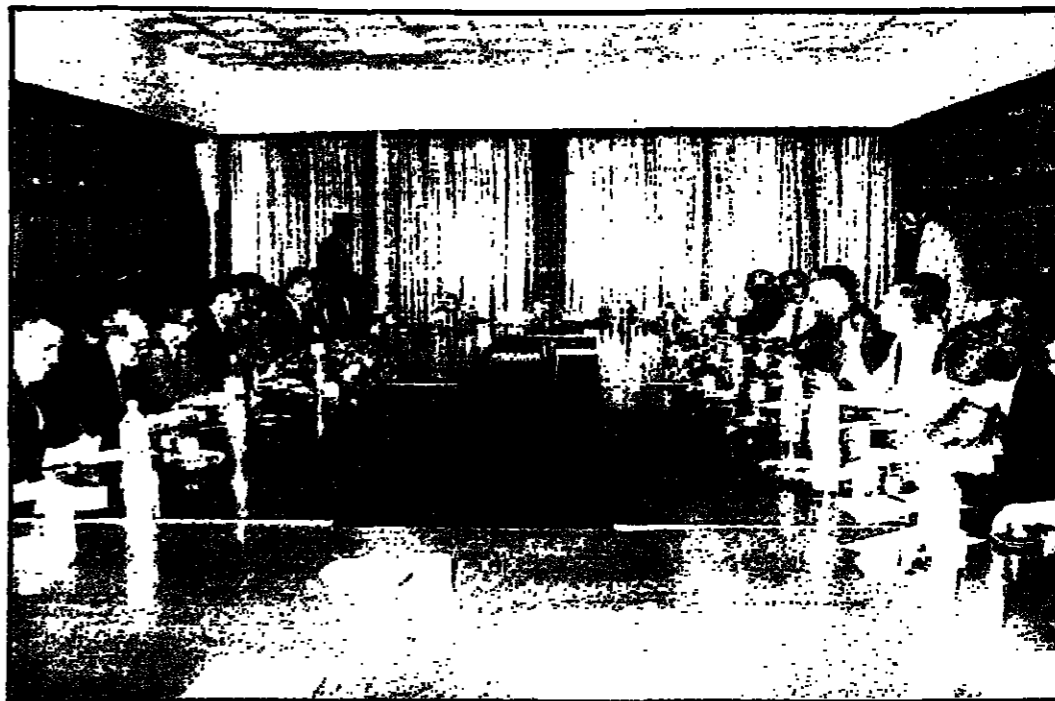
The three-day summit was due to end Monday with a joint statement on the world economy, which was also not achieved through a totally harmonious process.

A draft copy of that statement, obtained by reporters attending the summit, maps out a strategy to foster greater economic growth through cooperation, more stable international exchange markets and lower unemployment.

But the United States came in for considerable criticism of its economic policies while the statement, which is still subject to revision, was being drafted.



Seven heads of government and the European Economic Community (EEC) Sunday pose for a group photograph at an economic summit held in Williamsburg, Virginia. From left to right: EEC President Gaston Thorn, Italian Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani, French President Francois Mitterrand, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau (A.P. wirephoto)



Members of the National Consultative Council (NCC) headed by Speaker Suleiman Arar (fourth from left) Monday hold discussions with a delegation from the European Parliament (Petra photo)

Arar says Mideast solution should be based on Palestinian self-determination

AMMAN (J.T.) — Any solution to the Middle East conflict which ignores the Palestinians' right to self-determination cannot serve as a basis for a comprehensive settlement to the region's problems, National Consultative Council (NCC) Speaker Suleiman Arar told a visiting delegation from the European Parliament Monday.

In a separate meeting, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem explained to the delegation the "dangers posed by Israel's occupation of Lebanon, the destruction it has caused," and the Zionist state's refusal to abide by the will of the international community, "which has repeatedly called on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon unconditionally and without achieving any gains from its aggression," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Mr. Arar called on Europe to abandon its "indifferent" attitude towards the military aid and political support Israel is receiving and to take a more active role in efforts for Middle East peace, Petra said.

"This European indifference is one of the basic factors which encourage Israel to continue its aggressive and expansionist policy and as long as the European attitude continues the Middle East's future will remain in a state of insecurity," the agency quoted Mr. Arar as saying.

As examples of the "aggressive and expansionist Israeli policy," Mr. Arar cited the Israeli bombing of an Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981 and the invasion of Lebanon last year. "After displacing the Palestinian people from their homeland, Israel went as far as attacking the Iraqi nuclear reactor," he said.

"We have sharp differences with the U.S. over the Middle East issue and we voiced these differences through the (EEC) Venice Declaration of 1981," the delegation leader said. "Europe feels that many events in the world depend on the two superpowers, and we are adopting a policy which enable us to express our own opinion on world events," he said.

Mr. Qasem also explained the "dangers of Israel's occupation of Lebanese territories, the destruction this occupation has caused, and Israel's refusal to abide by the will of the international community, which has called on Israel to leave Lebanon unconditionally and without achieving any gains from its aggression against Lebanon."

Mr. Qasem called on the world community and the European community in particular "to shoulder their responsibilities in repulsing the aggression and ending the occupation as well as exercising effective pressure on Israel to respond positively to the peace efforts, to end the construction of settlements and the evacuation of Arab residents from their land," Petra said.

Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who also received the delegation at his office Monday, explained to the delegation members the "threats posed to the security and stability of the area as a result of the continuation of the Israeli occupation and the policy of expansion as well as the establishment of more settlements in the occupied Arab territories," the agency said.

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NCC approves Peoples Army bill

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Consultative Council (NCC) Monday approved a law that prescribes the recruitment of a people's army.

The People's Army law, which was formulated on the instructions of His Majesty King Hussein, states that a popular army should be set up under the command of the armed forces, which will be responsible for its organisation and supply.

The objective behind its creation, according to the law, is "to help the armed forces defend Jordan and protect its territorial integrity and independence."

The 19-article law also states that service in the popular army is

mandatory for secondary school, university and college female and male students. Non-student males between the ages of 16 and 55 years-old must also join the popular army. The law also allows Jordanian women to join as volunteer provided that they are aged between 16 and 45.

The proposal that Jordanian women should for the first time be recruited in the army was a hotly contested point at the NCC meeting. Several members suggested that female recruits should have the same type of training and assignments as their male counterparts.

However Prime Minister Mudar Badran said that gender will be taken into consideration in both these fields.

Mr. Badran also pointed out that an estimated 200,000 Jordanians will form the strength of the popular army.

Among the responsibilities visualised for the popular army is the fortification of cities, towns and all strategic positions throughout the country so to enable Jordan to hold out in the face of any aggression. The people's militia will also be used as a military guard as well as in the defence of the communications lines such as bridges, roads, railways, ports, airports and telecommunications lines in the country.

Jordanian-Palestinian committee ends meetings

AMMAN (J.T.) — The meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for the Support of the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Arab Territories were concluded here Sunday.

The committee discussed the various topics on the agenda and made appropriate decisions in this connection, particularly as regards reviewing the financial situation of the Fund for the Support of the Steadfastness of the Residents of the Occupied Territories, Petra, said.

The committee decided to make contacts with Arab countries which did not pay their share to the fund for this year to prompt them to pay their share. It also

decided to make contacts with Arab and international organisations to develop the resources of the fund in a "manner that can fulfil the increasing demand of development projects to confront the Zionist settlement

onslaught against the occupied Arab territories."

The committee also made decisions to support charitable, social, trade union and sports societies in the occupied territories.

Amman Chamber of Industry announces that the chamber's new telephone numbers are as follows:

44647	44579	42648
42649		42296

FEATURES

A botanist's dream comes true

By Walter Bagley
Reuter

NEW YORK — After more than 200 years the dream of British botanist Joseph Banks to display colour prints of plants collected during Captain James Cook's circumnavigation of the globe in the 18th century is coming true.

Banks paid the equivalent of almost half a million dollars for engravings of his specimens collected on one of history's truly scientific voyages — but he never realised his "grand dream" to have them reproduced for the world.

Now the natural history division of the British Museum, to which Banks bequeathed his scientific collection, and private publisher J.G. Studholme are collaborating on a limited production of 738 of the engravings held by the museum.

The prints are being painstakingly produced in a London studio by artists using a 17th century technique.

The work, entitled "Banks' Florilegium," will comprise 100 volumes with each print signed and numbered by its individual printer and with its authenticity verified by the British Museum. The project is expected to be finished by 1987.

Already 24 of the 12 by 18 inch (305 by 457 mm) prints are on display in New York at the American Museum of Natural History — the first large-scale public viewing ever offered of prints made from the intricate copper engravings.

The exhibition, entitled "A Flowering of Science: Plants from Captain Cook's First Voyage 1768-1771," will be on display here until July. It will then tour America before going abroad.

Banks, aided by Swedish sci-

entist Daniel Solander and botanical artist Sydney Parkinson, collected over 30,000 specimens representing some 3,600 species.

Banks and Solander described and catalogued the samples while Parkinson made water colour sketches of them.

Modern experts estimate that almost half of the species collected on the expedition were new to science at the time and many of the original drawings are still used by scientists as definitive examples of the plants depicted.

Parkinson, died in his early 20s, towards the end of the historic voyage after completing about one-third of some 950 sketches, but Banks had sufficient notes and plant samples to have other artists complete the drawings.

He commissioned 18 of the best engravers in England — at a time when the art was flourishing there

— to render the artists' work in cooper. The project, which personally cost Banks the equivalent of a half million dollars, took 13 years.

But, for a variety of reasons, Banks never followed through on his "dream" of publishing prints of the engravings and they remained in the British Museum for two centuries.

Now Studholme's firm, Aleco Historical Editions, in collaboration with the museum and a young master printer, Edward Egerton-Williams, is printing 100 volumes of the 738 existing engravings. Most of the volumes already have been subscribed to — for about £55,000 (\$87,000).

"It needs to be done," Studholme told Reuters in an interview at the museum here. "It's important to science and to history."

He noted that many of the plants collected from Australia

and other Pacific areas predated written history there.

The printing process requires the intricacies of leaf veins, stems and subtle floral shapes being hand drawn on copper plates.

Delicate, precise work. "It takes weeks at the museum matching colours and running back to the studio," Egerton-Williams said.

Usually an artist would work on a single engraving, producing two or four finished prints a day until 100 "perfect" prints were produced.

The engravings are being printed at his London studio by some 20 artists — mostly recent graduates of art colleges "because they haven't learned any bad habits."

They will all be old before anyone tries to duplicate their artistic feat. The British Museum says it will not authorise another printing for at least 50 years.

Spanish cadets seek new image

By Mark Baillie
Reuter

ZARAGOZA, Spain — A huge monument to the late general Francisco Franco still dominates Zaragoza Military Academy but the cadets hurrying past the statue are heading for classes in Marxism, sociology and constitutional law.

The General Military Academy, where all army officers are trained for five years, has undergone a process of gradual but constant change in the eight years since the dictator's death, said the chief instructor, Col. Joaquin Segura Garcia.

Cadets now listen to rock 'n' roll in their spare time, but "liking rock 'n' roll doesn't make a man less of an officer," he told Reuters.

Instructors and cadets complained to Reuters of a hostile and uncomprehending press which portrays the Spanish Army as led by coup-prone rightwingers brainwashed at the academy.

But a coup attempt and numerous plots among officers in the first seven years of democracy have made Spain sensitive about an army which was a pillar of Franco's dictatorship.

Coup fears have prompted the press to report minor and routine disciplinary infringements or arguments which make many officers feel they have someone looking over their shoulder all the time.

Concern about military matters makes routine appointments and promotions, often down to the rank of major, items of news in Spain's national dailies, but many officers say the reporting is superficial.

"They don't know us, there's complete ignorance of what we are and what we do," Col. Segura said, adding few Spanish journalists have visited army units to

find out.

The pressing concerns of officers who have talked to Reuters resemble the preoccupations of officers in other Western European armies — keeping troops usefully occupied and seeking more funds for better equipment and training.

The subject of coups is always touchy. While all officers questioned rejected coup-plotters as a minority fringe, others went further, saying they damaged morale in the armed forces.

Some officers have said the failure of the coup attempt of February 1981 ruled out any similar action in the future because the king, the people and the armed forces had shown they would not back a military takeover.

Military rule followed the 1936-39 civil war, Franco's "crusade" against Marxism, for the next 46 years. But at Zaragoza this is considered just another war now, instructors said.

Set texts still use terms like "crusade," "war of liberation" and "Marxist hordes," but these books have been abandoned in favour of instruction by lectures while a new history book is prepared, Col. Segura said.

Gen. Juan Batista Sanchez Bilbao, academy director general, said there had been no political incidents at all during his 13 months in charge here.

"Cadets and staff are allowed their own political ideas, but party politics are banned," he said, adding this included displaying party stickers in their rooms.

A cadet showing any extreme political tendencies would be told clearly at the selection stage that demonstrations of these ideas would be unwelcome at Zaragoza, he said.

Cadet Nicolas Berlanga, 21, told Reuters: "When you go home

on leave your friends keep asking you about the army's politics when your biggest worry is tomorrow's sociology exam."

Political studies were first introduced 10 years ago but in the last few years there has been an increasing emphasis on sociology, psychology, teaching methods and constitutional law.

These subjects and scientific studies take up about 40 per cent of the cadets' five years here. Other changes include allowing cadets their own books, posters and stereo systems in their quarters.

The academy recently held its first ever rock concert in the cadets' recreation club and the cadets produce their own satirical and uncensored weekly paper.

Cadets, however, do admit to a certain isolation from their civilian contemporaries.

"It's a different way of life. My friends can never understand why I put up with sleeping out in the field and eating cold food from a tin," cadet Berlanga said.

But last year 4,000 young men applied for 275 places here through a selection procedure setting a university entrance level exam and physical fitness and psychological tests.

Nearly half the cadets now come from civilian backgrounds, in contrast with a third 15 years ago, and cadets say the only criterion for entry is ability.

Cadets and officers all say they are just doing a job and do not deserve the spotlight of public attention and frequently unfavourable comment.

"Everywhere we go on exercises or visits we are very well received by the population," Col. Segura said.

"We are nothing special, just ordinary people," Berlanga added.

America learns Japanese monopoly

By Kevin Cooney
Reuter

NEW YORK — Hundreds of American businessmen and women are paying \$500 each to play a game that has taught Japanese executives how to run international enterprises.

More than 400 U.S. executives have played the international management game, developed by Sony in Japan to train its own managers, and introduced to the United States when it was discovered that people were willing to pay to play it.

Blue Sky Enterprises and Recbec Inc. were two of the imaginary companies created recently as 10

American executives — training officers, consultants and one corporate president — sat playing the game in a Manhattan office block. Blue Sky Enterprises took a 56 per cent share of its international market in its third year of business. By its fifth year it had increased its share to 70 per cent.

Its competitor, Recbec, crashed. The successful company was led by Judy Esterquest, an internal consultant for the consulting firm of Booz, Allen, Hamilton.

This week, Esterquest was principal president of Blue Sky, a company she said put good weather in lucite boxes so people could be cheered up on cloudy days.

"She put a lot of money into research and development. That permitted her to undersell us from the third fiscal year on. She wiped us out," said Richard Becker, a senior training officer for Prudential Insurance in real life, but president of Recbec while the game lasted.

"I came in with a theoretical and conceptual understanding of what it means to run an international business, so I think I had a better feel for the game than somebody coming in cold," Esterquest said.

The game begins with each player staked to a factory and given \$30,000 to buy machinery, hire workers and begin a sales campaign. They can make anything

they want, but they all compete regardless of what they are selling. As players turn over cards revealing unforeseen fortuitous events and an occasional disaster, they try to outbid each other in the marketplace.

The players are required to keep elaborate cash-flow charts that record each transaction they make, report annual results and make a total accounting of their stewardship at the end of the five fiscal years that make up the three-day game.

"It is very similar to a big 'Monopoly' game," Esterquest said. "though it is more about financial planning and cost accounting."

"It is a very well-constructed game and the plastic chips really become a concrete manifestation of high economic theory."

Becker described the game as a superb refresher course in general accounting and, while he felt three days was too short a time to acquire much understanding of international business, he felt the game, "gives you and a good running start on the concept of strategic planning based on accounting techniques."

He recommended the game to anyone running a business with sales of one million to three million dollars a year.

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WFP provides \$3.4m to develop agriculture

AMMAN (J.T.) — The World Food Programme (WFP) will provide U.S. \$3.4 million in assistance for a range and forage development project in Jordan over a period of three years, WFP governing body, currently in session in Rome, recently announced.

WFP assistance is intended as an incentive to farmers to participate in activities for the improvement of rangeland through the planting of shrubs and the protection of reserves. It also aims to promote fodder production through the conversion of the traditional cereal and fallow cropping pattern to the cereal and forage legumes rotation system and to promote sheep fattening.

Around 10,796 tons of food commodities will be supplied by WFP under the project, of which 6,661 tons will be distributed to participants in return for their involvement in the project activities. Some 4,135 tons will be given to the Ministry of Supply to generate cash for a revolving fund that would provide seasonal loans to low-income farmers for sheep fattening. The ultimate objective of the project is to increase the supply of sheepmeat in the country and to come closer to self-sufficiency.

The importance of the project lies in the fact that it is based on an empirical study completed under the original phase to which WFP contributed some \$2.5 million in food assistance. Another important feature of the project is that most of its activities are carried out by cooperatives with the ultimate advantage going to cooperative members. This increases the importance of the cooperative model in boosting agriculture production. The project will also contribute to improving.

Finally, the project will be instrumental in finding work for the rural population in the development of an increasing number of range reserves that would eventually be opened for organised grazing.

RSS' solar energy report discussed by symposium

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar to discuss a study on solar energy in Jordan began at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Monday.

The study was prepared by the chemical engineering department at the RSS.

The study, which was financed by the West German technical cooperation ministry, contains

general information on the energy situation in Jordan with regards to consumption and demand, and also includes an analysis of the extent to which solar energy can satisfy Jordan's energy requirements.

It also includes a survey of the Jordanian people's receptiveness to the use of solar power.

Arab economic action considered

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary-General of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Mhadi Al Obeidi and Secretary-General of the Arab Land Transport Union (ALTU) Monday discussed here the role of the two departments on the subject of Arab cooperation.

They also discussed ways of intensifying efforts at creating the appropriate climate for joint Arab economic action.

Iraqi youth minister leaves

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Youth Minister Ahmad Al Samarra'i Monday left Amman at the end of a four-day official visit to Jordan, during which he met Prime Minister Mudar Badran and high-ranking Jordanian officials.

He also had talks with Culture and Youth Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar on ways of strengthening cooperation between the two countries in sporting and youth affairs.



Mayor of Amman Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh opens a charity fete organised by the Jerusalem charity society in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Rawabdeh offers municipal land for use as public parks, gardens

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh said Monday that the Amman Municipality is prepared to give plots of land to charities wishing to transform them into public parks and gardens, particularly for use by children.

Mr. Rawabdeh, who was speaking at the opening of the charity

bazaar held by the Jerusalem charity society here Monday, said the problem in establishing public parks and gardens in the capital is not the land, which is available, but the lack of people to construct and supervise these parks and gardens which can then be used for educational purposes. This could be done through the charities and voluntary bodies, he said.

Mr. Rawabdeh said the municipality had decided to give a plot of land to the Jerusalem charity society in order to build the Jerusalem park on it. He also announced that the municipality has decided to donate books for a library as well as JD 2000 to the society.

Zarqa water tenders to be issued in June

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tenders are to be issued in June for eight contracts in the Zarqa-Ruseifa water and sewerage scheme, the MEED (Middle East Economic Digest) magazine reported recently quoting the Water Supply Corporation's deputy-director.

In all the contracts are worth \$75 million (about JD 27m) with the World Bank providing \$17.5 million, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) \$15 million, the West German Kreditanstalt fuer Wiederaufbau \$2.8 million. The government is to pay the local portion

of the cost.

The contracts, says MEED, will be staggered to avoid digging up the whole of the town at the same time.

MEED also reports that the Jordan Valley Association (JVA) has awarded a \$9.2 million (about JD 3.5 million) contract to construct a 110,000 cubic-metre treated water reservoir in Irbid to the British firm Biwater Shellbear.

The contract is the first in a series of five which forms part of the JVA's northern water supply scheme.

Dudin details future policy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudin Monday addressed the National Consultative Council (NCC) on the agricultural situation in Jordan and the general policy outlined by the Prime Minister.

In his statement, Mr. Dudin said that the Jordanian farmer, despite the limited agricultural resources available in Jordan, had made a great improvement in production, though this depended on the individual's initiative and effort. He added that the government's support and guidance had enabled Jordanian farmers to make use of technical innovation and advanced know-how in the agricultural field.

The Agricultural Credit Corporation and the Cooperative Organisation had contributed considerably to investment in agriculture. The total loans offered to farmers during the 1976-1980 five-year plan by the two bodies reached JD 20 million, while another JD 48 million is planned to be granted during the present five-year plan, the minister added.

The Ministry of Agriculture statement clarified that the total farming area in Jordan is now four million dunums, most of which is

used for growing cereal crops. Three hundred thousand dunums are at the present exploited for vegetable growing and fruit occupies about 400,000 dunums, the statement said.

Mr. Dudin's report pointed out that 90 per cent of farm land in Jordan relies on rain-water, and that farm land in Jordan suffers from many disadvantages, among which are the continued subdivision of land, the encroachment of cities onto prime agricultural land, the lack of skilled labour and its inability to cope with advanced mechanisation.

Mr. Dudin stated that the establishment of the Agricultural Council in 1979 had inaugurated intensified efforts aimed at outlining a policy comprehensively to develop the agricultural sector and compensate for the slow progress that has been made during the previous years in comparison with other sectors of the Jordanian economy.

The council finalised its main directives for improving the situation in its April 1982 session, the statement added. The new policy calls for the protection of agricultural resources and the preservation of farm land, and urging the government to adopt the appropriate measures to this end.

The adoption of the latest scientific techniques for the exploitation of land and water resources are also considered essential if productivity is to be improved, the statement pointed out. Satisfying the needs of the consumer should be one of the primary considerations when dealing with the agricultural question, and a concentration on essential crops in order to guarantee food security should be given equal concern, the statement added.

Encouragement by the government bodies should include a generous pricing policy for farmers, and easy credit arrangements should be adopted, the statement went on. Organisation of land ownership to help maximise productivity should be dealt with, and the regrouping of land is imperative for such an end. Research and field work related to agricultural problems must also be encouraged, and the appropriate agricultural guidance given in view of these findings, the minister's report added.

Mr. Dudin stressed that agricultural directives and policies would remain ineffective unless translated into practical programmes.

New media protocol signed

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and the Soviet Union Monday signed here a protocol for the exchange of radio and television programmes during 1983 and 1984.

The protocol was signed a behalf of Radio Jordan and Jordan Television by Information Ministry Under-Secretary Peter Salah, and for the State Committee on Television and Radio by its Deputy-Chairman Vladimir Popov, who left Jordan Monday.



Information Ministry Under-Secretary Peter Salah (pinstripe) and Soviet State Committee on Television and Radio Deputy Chairman Vladimir Popov Monday sign a protocol for the exchange of radio and television programmes (Petra photo)

Electrification completed

KARAK (Petra) — An electrification project covering four villages in the South Ghor region has been completed, according to Hamad Al Nababshah, a spokesman from the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) office here.

He said Taisa, Al Naqra, Haditha and Mazra'a have been supplied with electricity within the framework of an overall programme for supplying 39 villages in South Ghor region with power at a cost of JD 2 million.

Nababshah said that the four villages have been linked by low pressure power lines that are being installed throughout the region.

Water, environment conference opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The three-day meeting of the national conference on drinking water and environmental protection, organised by the Health Ministry in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), was opened by Health Minister Zuhair

Malhas at Yarmouk University Liaison Office here Monday.

Addressing the conference, Dr. Malhas asserted the significance of providing potable water to all areas in the country, and treating refuse in a way that prevents it

from polluting water sources.

During the three-day conference, the participants will discuss several working papers on water, housing, the environment, the re-cycling of sewerage water and its effect on agriculture.

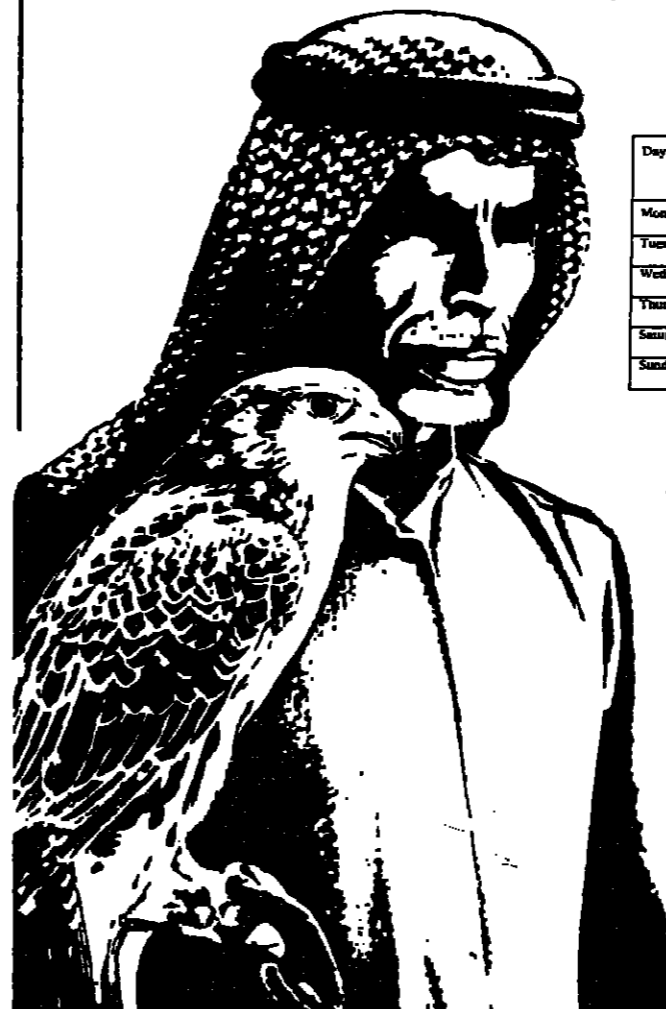
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Day	Amman Dep.	Bahrain Arr.	Doha Arr.	Abu Dhabi Arr.	Dubai Arr.	Muscat Arr.	Ras Al Khaima Arr.	Sharjah Arr.
Monday	13:40	16:25	16:20	16:10	21:35	20:30	—	—
Tuesday	13:00	16:25	16:15	16:15	21:35	20:30	22:40	—
Wednesday	14:30	21:19	22:00	16:11	00:45	02:10	—	—
Thursday	16:30	21:55	22:50	00:41	00:35	—	—	—
Friday	16:30	21:55	—	00:41	00:35	02:05	—	—
Sunday	13:00	17:15	16:30	23:55	19:50	19:50	—	22:40

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Gulf states have greater cause for optimism

By Harvey Morris

Reuter

LONDON — The Gulf's status as the world's potentially most volatile flashpoint has declined in the two years since local rulers joined together to counter external threats.

The six Arab states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which marked its second anniversary on Wednesday, now have greater cause for optimism about the prospects for regional stability than in the spring of 1981.

The six — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar — were brought together by a common fear that events sparked off by the Iranian revolution

of 1979 posed an imminent threat to their survival.

Arabs feared that the influence of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution would spill across the Gulf and foster internal dissent.

They were alarmed by Iran's threats to export a revolution that enjoyed widespread popularity in the Arab states of the Gulf, particularly among the Shi'ite Muslim communities that share the same faith as the Iranians.

The Gulf leaders were caught off guard by a tide of Muslim activism in their own states that ranged from mass protests in favour of the Iranian revolution to the bloody Mecca Mosque siege of November 1979.

But these concerns were soon

overtaken by even more alarming threats to the region's stability.

The Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, coming less than two months after the takeover of the U.S. embassy in Tehran, brought an increased danger of a superpower clash in the region.

Within a year war broke out between Iran and Iraq, both members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The Gulf states were faced with the prospect that the conflict could spread to other states and threaten the region's oil lines to buyers in the West.

Their response was to establish the cooperation council, an embryonic common market that would attempt to coordinate defence as well as economic policy and allow

the grouping to ensure its own security without recourse to superpower protection.

The threats that members foresaw in 1981 have now largely receded, partly through their own success in promoting a united front but, to a greater extent, because of events beyond their control.

The Iranian revolution has faded as a rallying cry for dissidents in the Arab countries of the Gulf. Regional analysts say the alleged excesses of the Tehran regime have turned many Arabs against the revolution they once hoped to emulate.

The wars in the Gulf and Afghanistan have both become bogged down and no longer appear to pose a physical threat to the rest of the region.

Analysts have recently expressed optimism that the Gulf Cooperation Council may succeed where other bodies have failed in ending the two and a half-year-old conflict between Iraq and Iran.

Member states that backed Iraq financially in order to help it contain Iranian expansionism are now concentrating their efforts on ending the war.

A council delegation has visited Tehran and Baghdad and Iraq expressed its willingness to sign an agreement to end attacks on towns and villages.

The decline in the world oil market has also played a role in calming international fears about the stability of the Gulf.

The Iranian revolution and the

Gulf war sparked an unprecedented round of panic oil-buying that sent crude prices to record highs.

With the oil market now in the grip of a worldwide glut there is less concern in the West about a long-term disruption of supplies from the Gulf.

The chief concern in the oil world is now, ironically, that peace could flood the already over-supplied market with increased quantities of Iranian and Iraqi crude.

International political developments have also served to switch superpower attention away from the Gulf, with Lebanon and Central America now figuring as more likely settings for future conflict.

Two faces of a coin

THE SOUTH African government's bombing raid against alleged "terrorist bases" in Maputo, as a reprisal for the bomb attack in Pretoria for which the African National Congress acknowledged responsibility, has been widely criticised in the West. The criticisms have been much more forthright than those voiced against Israel in similar circumstances, although Israel's reprisals against the Palestinians have consistently been on a far larger and more ruthless scale. But comparing the casualties and the human misery caused by these two rogue elephants in the international community gets us nowhere. What is more important is the fact that Israel and South Africa, confronted with broadly similar situations, have chosen the same strategy in dealing with their enemies; and that the West, because of its equivocal attitude towards these two brutal and repressive regimes, comes in for a share of the blame.

This need not be so. There is no doubt in anyone's mind in the West that the South African government, like the government of Israel, is denying the legitimate rights of a substantial number of human beings. Both governments pursue policies frankly based on racial discrimination. In pursuit of these policies they resort to practices which are outlawed by a long series of international conventions to which both Israel and South Africa are signatories. Both governments are in open breach of resolutions of the United Nations, of the Geneva Conventions and of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In so far as they both at all to justify their actions, they do so by branding all those who attempt to challenge their policies as "terrorists".

Such attitudes, which conflict with the basic principles to which every member of the United Nations formally subscribes, could not succeed if every other member opposed them, and opposed them not just with words but with actions. Neither Israel nor South Africa could continue indefinitely to bomb their neighbours, to imprison and torture and terrorise their own citizens and those over whom they exercise a disputed jurisdiction, if other governments — governments which claim to form part of the "free world" — did not give them active or passive support.

Both in the Middle East and in southern Africa, the policies of the Israeli and South African governments, besides causing untold human suffering, lie at the root of conflicts whose scope is steadily increasing and which threaten one day to engulf the Western powers who connive at them. No one can tell how long it will be before that happens; nor can anyone seriously doubt that it will happen, if Israel and South Africa continue on their present course. In preparation for that day, the two governments themselves cooperate in every way: they meet each other's economic needs, they exchange information, they collaborate in the development of nuclear weapons, they support and buttress each other's arguments about a mythical communist-terrorist international conspiracy against which they claim to be the standard-bearers.

The threat which they represent to the peace of the world is as unmistakable, though not yet as immediate, as the threat posed 50 years ago by the fascist governments of Italy and Germany. Just as it was wrong then — and not merely wrong but tragically ill-advised — to maintain normal relations with governments which disregarded their international obligations and which victimised and ill-treated whole categories of people on the principle of racial discrimination, so it is wrong to do so today, and more ill-advised than ever in the glaring light of the world's experience.

South Africa, like Israel, is working hard to secure itself against dependence on the outside world. Both governments are collaborating, and collaborating successfully, in the manufacture of advanced weapons. But their continuing success depends in part on the supply of raw materials and technology which are provided by the West. For the West to maintain that supply, and with it a policy of non-intervention which amounts in practice to tacit collaboration with these regimes, is both wrong and self-defeating. For the aims of Israel and South Africa, like the methods they use, are evil; and there are many precedents to support Burke's contention that "all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."

— Middle East International, London

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Yet another coverup

A recent report on the terrorist operations waged by the Zionist settlers against our kinsmen in the occupied territories raised controversy in the Israeli press and in the Knesset. The report speaks about the responsibility of government officials and their involvement in such operations, whether through direct planning, financing or by covering them up. Naturally, it is not news to say that terrorism against the West Bank and Gaza Strip Arabs is taking place. But what is new is the Israeli's new deceptive tactic of forming an investigative committee to look into these operations, and then refrain from publishing these findings inside the Knesset. What is stranger is the excuse made by the Israeli Justice Minister for not publishing the report, namely that its publication would implicate certain government officials.

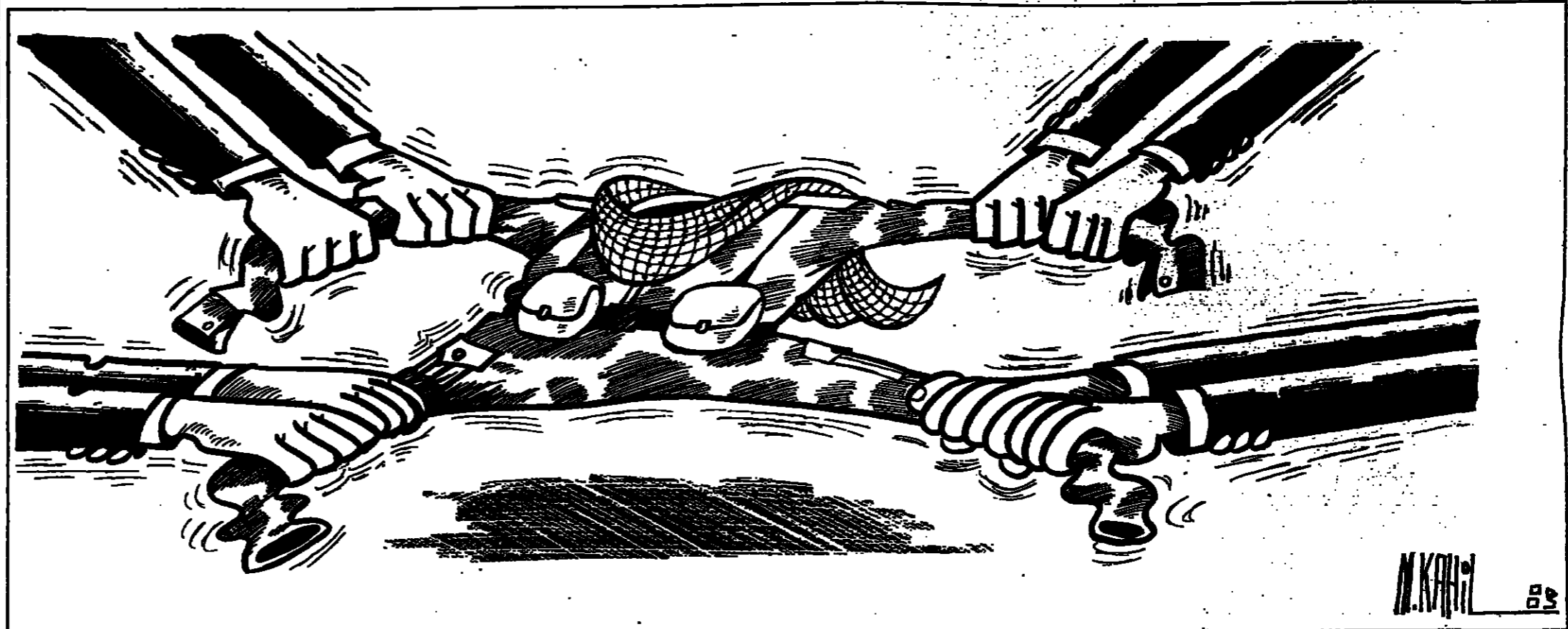
We thus ask: Why then was the committee formed, and what does the Begin government seek to hide by this deception? The answer is very well known — to expel the residents of the occupied Arab territories from their land through terrorism, pressure and oppression.

We therefore believe that even if the report is published, it would not help stop terrorism against our steadfast kinsmen in the occupied territories.

Al Dustour: On the brink of war

It seems that the Middle East region is systematically heading towards war in light of the situation in the Bekaa Valley and the Israeli and Syrian military preparations in the area. It is unreasonable to believe that the Israeli and Syrian armies would stay in a state of alert indefinitely. Consequently, there will either be a political relaxation of the crisis, or the crisis will escalate further. It seems also that the chances of a political relaxation are slim given Syria's rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the hardline stand of the United States, which refuses to negotiate with Syria on the basis of recognising its legitimate security demands. No doubt such a deadlock in the dialogue could lead to war unless war is diverted at the last minute. One cannot help but ask under the circumstances: if Washington will take any steps to prevent the war, or does it mean to solve the situation militarily by allowing Israel to attack Syria.

Thus the chances of war are still there, and if war breaks out, it will be at the expense of Lebanon, Syria and all the Arabs. Syria should hasten to settle its difference with the Arab countries in order to prepare for confrontation with Israel. The United States should also quickly open channels of communications with Damascus, and put pressure on Israel not to attack. Otherwise, the area will remain on the brink of war, with the dangers such a war might cause to both the area and to the world.



Israel anxious to avoid conflict with Syria

By David Rogers

Reuter

TEL AVIV — A year ago it would have been almost unthinkable for Syrian warplanes to fire on an Israeli jet and escape without getting involved in a dogfight.

According to the Israelis this is what happened during a routine reconnaissance mission over Lebanon.

Indicating a change of public mood since last summer's Lebanon war, there was no criticism of the air force's failure to respond to the reported attack.

In the days of former Defence Minister Ariel Sharon and his hawkish generals, a firm Israeli reaction would have been a near certainty.

Western diplomats said the message from Israel's handling of the affair was a determination to avoid a clash with Syria which could jeopardise the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Noting Israel had not given the location of the incident, one military attaché said it was possible the Israeli plane was probing into territory not normally covered by

the daily reconnaissance flights.

The restrained reaction suggested Prime Minister Menachem Begin's government did not want to harm Arab and U.S. efforts to persuade Syria to change its mind about the agreement on withdrawing Israeli forces from Lebanon.

"The Israelis are definitely on the lookout for a sucker punch — getting drawn into anything that will enable the Syrians to blame them for scuttling the agreement," one diplomat said.

Damascus has rejected the agreement. Aware that Israel will not

withdraw unless Syrian and Palestinian fighters leave, President Hafez Al Assad holds a veto that may force a war-weary Israel to continue its year-long occupation of South Lebanon.

According to the Israelis, aerial encounter was not the first Syrian ceasefire violation. An Israeli army communiqué called it "the most serious in a chain of worsening violations."

"The Syrian provocations are not coincidental and are integrated with Syrian moves and declarations by high-ranking off-

icials testifying to their willingness to take action to nullify the Israeli-Lebanese agreement," the communiqué said.

The communiqué — state radio reported it was drafted by Begin and Defence Minister Moshe Arens — said Israel would do everything to prevent clashes with Syria.

It stressed there was no question of stopping the daily reconnaissance flights over Lebanon which Israel insists are vital for its security.

"The question is how far can the

Syrians go without getting a bloody nose," one diplomat commented.

Adding to the tensions were reports from Washington that Soviet advisers had joined Syrian forces for exercises. The reports, quoted prominently on Israel Radio, said the manoeuvres were on the plain between Damascus and the Golan Heights.

The Knesset (parliament) Foreign Affairs and Security Committee summoned generals to a closed session for a briefing about the Syrian front.

Foot's chances dwindling

By James Anderson

Reuter

LONDON — With less than two weeks to go before Britain's general election, the opinion polls appear to be overwhelmingly against Michael Foot, and the Labour Party he leads seems to be facing a crushing defeat.

The elderly, often deshevelled, intellectual who leads the main opposition Labour Party is seen by most voters as a fundamentally implausible candidate for prime minister, the polls indicate.

His rhetorical skill is undoubted, his long and passionate advocacy of left-wing causes is unrivalled, his personal warmth unquestioned.

But so far it is Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who has dominated the campaign and holds a big lead. Bookmakers and financial markets agree she will win comfortably.

The campaign has ruthlessly exposed differences between Labour's top men over key issues like nuclear arms and membership of the European Common Market.

Foot, 69, has spent much of his time trying to explain away statements by Denis Healey, the party's deputy leader and chief spokesman on foreign affairs.

Healey says Britain's arsenal of nuclear weapons should be used as a bargaining chip with the Soviet Union instead of being quickly scrapped, as official party policy decrees.

Foot, in contrast, is a long-standing advocate of unilateral disarmament, one of the many issues which put him at odds with the mainstream of the party in the consensus years of the 1950s and 60s when both Labour and the Conservatives stood, as a whole, closer to the political centre than they now do.

Opinion polls indicate that while there is substantial doubt among the voters about new nuclear arms like U.S. cruise missiles to be based in Britain, all-out uni-

lateralism is unpopular and Thatcher is winning the debate on defence.

Labour's pledge to pull out of the European Community also seems to be worrying voters and some Labour Party members.

The polls also show that Healey is more popular than Foot and that Foot is the least-respected man to lead a major British party in modern times.

David Owen, a former Labour Foreign secretary who is now a leader of the breakaway Social Democrats, declared that the nuclear issue showed Foot was "not fit to be prime minister."

And it is Foot himself, as much as the issues, who seems to be the party's problem.

Party chiefs foresee this well before the election and there was a semi-public attempt to replace Foot with Healey.

At the height of the election contest this week Labour Party General Secretary Jim Mortimer astonished reporters by publicly declaring that Labour's campaign planners insisted Foot was still the party leader — suggesting Foot's position had been in question.

By contrast with Thatcher's forceful "iron lady" style — which her friends call dominating and her critics domineering — Foot seems absent-mindedly eccentric.

Perhaps his best-remembered public appearance as leader of the opposition was in November 1981 when he wore a rumpled suit and a green donkey jacket at the annual memorial service for fallen heroes of Britain's wars.

There was an outcry from the many people who thought his dress lacked the gravity and solemnity the occasion demanded and he was tagged indelicately with the same "Worzel Gummidge" — a scarecrow in a children's television show.

One political commentator said at the time that a man who can get a bad press laying a wreath on a war memorial is a man against whom the gods have decisively turned.

His much-criticised appearance has now been substantially tidied

up for the election campaign. He has smarter suits and pays more attention to details like the cut of his lank white hair.

But his morning walks with his cane and dog on Hampstead Heath, the largest and wildest of London's great parks, still offer the cameras the picture of a spinny, shambling figure.

He looks more like a literary journalist polishing in his mind his next incisive book review — at which he is an acknowledged master — than a national leader weighing the practical affairs of state.

Foot in fact owes his selection as Labour leader in 1980 partly to his personal warmth, which won him many friends in the party, but still more to a stalemate between feuding left-wing and right-wing factions.

He was born into politics as the son of a radical, self-educated Liberal member of parliament, and most of his long career was spent as a journalist and backbench rebel, preaching the true faith of Socialism against the moderates who then dominated the party.

His brief experience in office began in the 1970s when, as an elder statesman of the left, he was called into the cabinet by Prime Minister Harold Wilson to handle the government's prickly relations with the trade unions.

When Michael Foot lost his seat in parliament in the election of 1955, his book-loving father gave him a rare volume as a consoling gift.

On the flyleaf old Isaac Foot penned a brief tally of the rebuffs from the voters he had suffered in his own Quixotic political career and wrote to his son that "on the whole these (six) defeats were more honourable than my five victories."

With Labour far behind in the opinion polls, the son must sometimes think of his father's words. The electoral disaster which many of Foot's supporters and admirers now see as inevitable would come as a fitting climax to his career as a passionate advocate of ideals.

Emigration tax may cost Romania 'most favourable nation' status

By Richard Balmforth

Reuter

BELGRADE — Romania is coming under strong diplomatic pressure to lift a new controversial emigration tax that threatens to sink its special relationship with the West, Western diplomatic sources say.

Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei held what the U.S. State Department described as positive discussions in Washington this month on the tax which President Reagan has warned will cost Bucharest "most favoured nation" (MFN) trade status.

Meanwhile, officials and diplomats in West Germany say Bonn is ready to offer economic benefits to the Communist Balkan state if Bucharest exempts ethnic Germans from paying the levy introduced six months ago.

Earlier, the West Germans opted out of talks on rescheduling Romania's foreign debts because of their opposition to the emigration tax, diplomatic sources said.

But Western diplomats following Romanian affairs say it may be impossible to find a face-saving formula which will allow Romania, and more particularly President Nicolae Ceausescu, to quietly shelve the law.

Like most important legislation in Romania, the new law is the brainchild of Ceausescu, the country's autocratic ruler who has a reputation for being stubborn under pressure.

Informed diplomatic sources say the decree was decided on impulse by Ceausescu after he received a report on Romania's "brain drain". At least one senior foreign ministry official was sacked for expressing his opposition.

The storm over the decree has disrupted a long period of favour which, in spite of its debt problems, Romania has won from the West by its independent stand

within the Soviet Bloc.

Since the decree became law last December, Ceausescu has publicly defended its principle and criticised unacceptable "repressive measures" in foreign trade.

He has further railed against Western countries for trying to interfere in what he sees as a purely domestic concern. But Ceausescu appears to have left himself some room for manoeuvre by saying that Romania is ready to talk with those countries wishing to "discuss the problems related to education."

The law is intended to halt or at least slow down the flow of skilled talent from Romania, whose acute manpower shortage is just one of several serious economic problems.

Under the new legislation, Romanians would be emigrants will have to reimburse the state in hard currency for the cost of any higher education beyond the age of 16 before they are allowed to leave the country.

For a Romanian who has undergone a lengthy period of medical training for instance this could add up to a bill of \$20,000.

Officials in Bucharest argue that Romania is a developing country that cannot afford to export skilled labour to the West and say the tax is just.

The biggest category of potential emigrants represents Romania's ethnic Germans who for the past five years have been emigrating to West Germany at the rate of more than 12,000 a year. The flow of emigrants to the United States, Israel and France is also certain to be hit, diplomats say.

Many Western diplomats privately express sympathy for Romania's economic predicament while criticising the levy as a cynical "head tax".

Since Romanian citizens do not have access to hard currency nor the legal right to own it, their chances of being able to emigrate

seem bleak unless relatives abroad buy them out.

But early fears that the decree would choke emigration to a trickle have not yet materialised, though the first cases have occurred of would-be emigrants being handed a hard currency bill to be settled before leaving.

Emigration to West Germany, where the tax has sparked off a national furor, is in fact still running at its normal rate of about 1,000 people per month.

Romanian Rabbi Moses Rosen is also reported to have said that only about three per cent of the approximately 30,000 Jews in Romania will be affected by the tax.

Nonetheless, President Reagan has said Romania will lose its "most favoured nation" status on June 30 costing it about \$200 million in trade if the decree is enforced.

Granting of MFN status to a Communist country by the United States is tied to that country's emigration record. Its withdrawal would hit Romania as it pushes ahead with a trade drive to pay off big western debts.

Some diplomats suggest that West Germany, as well as holding out the bait of as yet unspecified economic benefits to Bucharest, may be exerting more direct economic pressure by delaying agreement on debt rescheduling terms with Romania.

Diplomats believe a way out may be for Romania to be persuaded to leave the law on the statute books without actually applying it to the letter.

Western diplomats believe Ceausescu seriously miscalculated reaction from the United States when he signed the decree.

At the same time, diplomats believe the United States would like to avoid a serious break in relations with Romania whose independent foreign policy stance in the Soviet Bloc has guaranteed it special favour from Washington.

SPORTS

Tennis tournament to be organised in aid of charity

AMMAN (J.T.) — A tennis tournament, in aid of Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, will be held at the Royal Automobile Club in Amman from June 4-9.

The Amman Open Tennis Tournament is organised by the Lufthansa German Airlines and will be patronised by His Highness Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid, who is also expected to participate in the tournament as a player.

A number of foreign ambassadors in Amman will also take part in the event, and will be appearing in the special final on June 9. A similar tournament was organised by the Lufthansa office in Jordan last year, but this year's event is the first time in which fund will be raised for charity.

Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped was established in 1971, and is headed by Princess Majda, Prince Ra'ad's wife. Until the end of 1980, there were 6,000 handicapped persons in Jordan, but the society says only 200 of them receive attention and care, for lack of enough financial resources.

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Top seeds in men's singles register straight sets

Durie topples Austin, reaches French Open tennis semifinals

PARIS (R) — Fourth-seeded American Tracy Austin, two-time U.S. Open champion, failed at the quarter-final stage of the French Open championships Monday when she was upset 6-1, 4-6, 6-0 by unseeded Jo Durie of Britain.

Giant-killing American Kathy Horvath, who shocked top-seeded defending champion Martina Navratilova in the fourth round on Saturday, also went out Monday to Yugoslav Mima Jausovec by the unceremonious score of 6-1, 6-1. Durie and Jausovec will clash for a place in the final.

Two leading seeds in the men's competition registered straight sets wins in the fourth round. Guillermo Vilas of Argentina, seeded fourth, overcame 11th seeded American Jimmy Arias, the Italian Open champion, 7-5, 6-3, 6-2 to earn a quarter-final against eighth seeded Jose Higueras of Spain, who beat Ecuador's Andres Gomez, seeded 16th, 7-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Durie, a 22-year-old from Bristol, faltered only briefly as she overcame a lacklustre challenge from Austin, whose lengthy international career as a teenager ended with her 20th birthday last December.

Durie's victory made her the first British girl to secure a semi-final place in the French championships since Sue Barker won the title in 1976 in a very weak field.

Austin was rarely allowed to settle into her familiar two-handed baseline game by Durie, a tall, elegant player with a good range of shots.

The British girl only let Austin off the hook once, when she had a chance to go 5-3 ahead in the second set on her service after racing through the first 6-1.

As Durie struggled Austin managed to hold her serve and broke back gratefully to win 6-4. But Austin's comeback was short-lived as Durie gathered herself together and dictated the final set with a series of beautifully executed passing shots and volleys.

Austin's serve, never her strong point, disintegrated completely as Durie wrapped up the match without dropping a game.

Austin was crestfallen as she admitted afterwards: "She played well, I played pretty awfully. I wasn't moving well and I made many errors. I don't remember making so many errors, especially on clay."

"I think I played a little bit better in the second set but the third was one of the worst in my career and Jo played well", the world's fourth-ranked girl said.

Durie was jubilant. "I feel fantastic. You can see me smile and I don't have words to describe it", she said afterwards.

It is the first time Durie, ranked 27th in the world, has reached the semifinals of a grand slam tournament.

Horvath, the petite 17-year-old, could not produce the same form against Jausovec that she showed against Navratilova and was bundled out in just over an hour. She could find no chinks in the Yugoslav's armour and made a number of unforced errors herself.

Higueras, who has not dropped a set so far, won two tie-breakers against Gomez, a hard-hitting left-hander who won last year's Italian Open and who likes to attack.

Vilas, one of the recognised experts on clay court, had few problems in his match with Arias. The young American put up some resistance in the first set but Vilas settled into his game, chasing down shots and not letting Arias dictate the pace.

McEnroe could be disqualified

LONDON (R) — John McEnroe could be thrown out of Wimbledon if his behaviour on court does not improve, officials at the world's premier tennis championship starting here in three weeks have said.

Wimbledon officials were appalled by his outbursts and tantrums at the French Open championships in Paris last week and said in the Sunday Times Sunday they will not tolerate it.

French officials fined the 24-year-old American for abusing the umpire and attacking a photographer. But Alan Mills, the new Wimbledon referee, was quoted as saying they would not allow him to behave as he wishes.

"I want to say there is not a vendetta against McEnroe, but I do not want to see a repetition of the scenes in Paris. There is no question of McEnroe not being disqualified because of who he is," Mills said.

TENNIS TALK

The backhand volley

By Maureen Stalla

THE BACKHAND volley is a difficult shot to hit. It often lacks the strength necessary to make it, the effective, aggressive weapon it should be. I will try to pinpoint essential features for a good strong backhand volley.

When you are in ready position at the net, make sure your arms are extended comfortably forward and that your elbows are in front of your body. With elbows in front, you'll be able to hit the volley well in front of your body, and that way be able to see the ball at all times. If you wait with your elbows by your side, as most players do, your racket will still be at your side when you react to a quick return, and you'll never get a chance to see the ball.

Backhand volleys are best hit with a short chopping motion. As the ball approaches, the free hand should bring the racket back—but it still must be in front of the body. If you have the time, you should turn to the side so that you can step off with your front foot as you punch the volley.

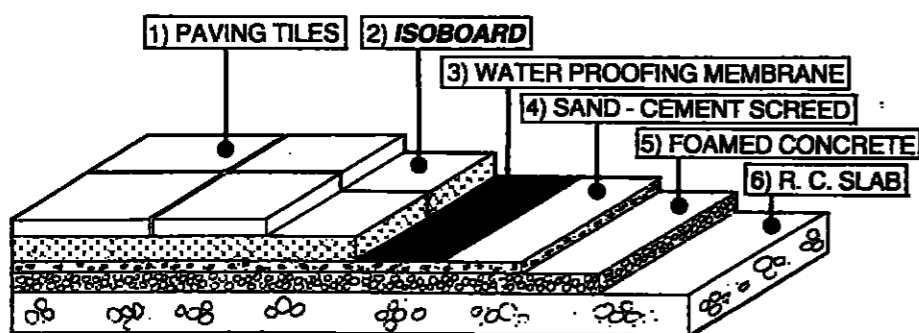
Many good players use slight wrist action. As they prepare to hit the ball the wrist is cocked. It snaps forward as the swing is made, yet remains firm at the moment of contact. A well hit volley is actually a sharp forward push; the racket head and wrist moving forward in unison. The racket head must not be flicked at the ball. Both the forearm and the wrist hit forward on the ball. This creates under spin which keeps the ball in the court. Also the ball must be hit as far out in front of the body as possible. There should be little or no follow through, certainly the head of the racket should not drop below the wrist—and the player must recover immediately to ready position as the ball may come back instantaneously.

These are the fundamentals of the backhand volley. Next week I'll talk about special circumstances, like low volleys, high volleys, and those that come right at you.

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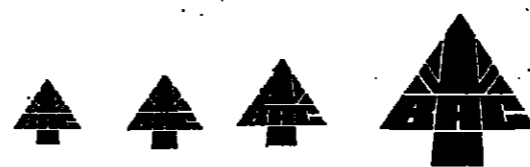
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TIME

U.S. economy gathers speed

U.S. recovery well under way (Time board of economists gives optimistic report)

Tension inside the PLO (Arafat's leadership challenged)

Nicaraguans to U.S.: Let's talk (interview with junta leaders)

ACCOUNTANTS REQUIRED

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Regan predicts 5-6% growth in U.S. economy

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan told finance ministers at the Williamsburg summit the U.S. economy could expand by five to six per cent during the current quarter, the Washington Post reported Monday.

This would be the administration's most optimistic prediction to date.

The growth rate during the first quarter of the year was 3.1 per cent.

The Post said Mr. Regan forecast the new growth rate at a private meeting with finance ministers of West Germany, Britain, Canada, Italy, Japan and France on Saturday night.

No confirmation of the newspaper report was immediately available, but a number of U.S. officials including Secretary of State Mr. George Shultz have said the recovery appears to be much stronger than originally believed.

Mr. Regan's forecast would indicate a sustained recovery from the severe worldwide recession which could significantly reduce unemployment in the seven summit nations.

But despite his prediction the summit leaders remained sceptical that U.S. budget deficits would be reduced enough to bring down interest rates and prolong recovery, the Post said.

Banks, OPEC, West meet to study Third World aid

VIENNA (R) — A two-day meeting of OPEC and Western aid agencies and commercial banks opened Monday to discuss assistance to the Third World, the OPEC Fund for International Development said.

In addition to the OPEC Fund, Arab aid agencies and Western donor countries grouped in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC), the meeting is attended by Arab and Western commercial banks and international financial institutions.

The meeting will examine the possibility of increasing commercial bank involvement in project financing in developing countries in cooperation with aid agencies.

Organisations such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have called recently for continued commercial bank involvement in the Third World, despite the debt problems of many developing countries.

They argued that an economic upturn in the West depends on healthy Third World markets, while a financial collapse of developing countries if funds are cut off could seriously damage industrialised countries.

The Vienna-based OPEC Fund, main aid agency of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, is host to the meeting, which has been held annually since 1978 in Paris.

Japanese firms reduce oil purchases from Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Several Japanese companies have recently renewed contracts to buy crude oil from Iran but the deals are for much less oil than before, diplomatic sources said Monday.

The sources said most of the 12 firms which had contracts with Iran had renewed them, but in several cases they were cutting purchases by almost half.

Once all but the smallest of the old contracts run out at the end of June, the Japanese companies will be buying no more than 200,000 barrels per day (b/d) from Iran, compared with 330,000 b/d under the old contracts, the sources said.

They said the companies cut back chiefly because Iran now was insisting on selling at its official price of \$28 for a barrel of light crude, making the oil much less attractive than last year when Iran was offering big discounts to increase sales.

All the new deals are at the official price, the sources said.

They said the Japanese believed the Iranians were disappointed at the cut in purchases and might retaliate by imposing restrictions on Iranian imports from Japan.

The trade houses buying the oil are also Japan's major exporters to Iran, selling products ranging from steel and construction equipment to textiles and tyres.

Britain to press for ban on lead in petrol

BRUSSELS (R) — Britain is to press its European Community partners next month to speed up progress towards a ban on the use of lead in petrol, diplomats said Monday.

A British memorandum, which will be sent to the nine other community governments over the next few weeks, called for lead additives in petrol to be phased out from 1986.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher — if she is returned to office after general election on June 9 — plans to press the call for a ban at a summit meeting of leaders of the 10-nation bloc from June 17/19, the diplomats said.

The London government decided that it should move towards lead-free petrol earlier this year, following an independent report on the damaging impact on the environment of leaded fuel.

Environment groups which have been pushing for a ban say that lead released into the atmosphere from car exhausts attacks the nervous system of children, lowering their intelligence and causing behavioural disturbances.

Japan, the United States and Australia have already made the switch to unleaded fuel.

Japan Air Lines reports large loss

TOKYO (R) — Japan Air Lines (JAL), the national carrier which is nearly 100 per cent government-owned, said Monday it made a loss of 3.82 billion yen (\$16 million) in the year ended March 31.

Shareholders were told they could not expect any dividend this year.

A company spokesman said JAL had a difficult time coping with the weakness of the yen and had to turn to special reserves and sell seven aircraft to avoid making an even greater loss.

In the previous 12-month period it recorded a 5.54 billion yen (\$23.4 million) profit and hoped to return to that position in the current year, he said.

Although the yen trend against international currencies remains a worry, the airline said it thought falling oil prices and a current wage freeze would be a great help.

Experts say Soviet economy in malaise

WASHINGTON (R) — A congressional study released Monday said the Soviet Union was suffering from economic malaise but was unlikely to institute drastic reforms.

The 1,000-page analysis, which contains 50 studies by scholars and government officials, generally supported reports that the Soviet economy has slowed down and reinforced the belief that U.S. attempts to impose trade sanctions have had little effect. It was compiled by the joint economic committee of Congress.

In a summary of some of the studies, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) analyst Mr. Martin Kohn said: "The Soviet economy has entered a period of malaise marked by a pronounced slowing

of overall growth."

He said that although economic results would probably fall short of official Soviet expectations, radical corrective action was unlikely.

"The Soviet economy, despite its monstrous inefficiencies and irrationalities, grinds on," he said.

The Soviet leadership now realised that improving the economy depended on a better use of high technology products, not just infusions of more land, labour and capital as in the past, Mr. Kohn added.

The CIA analyst said one theme of the studies was that Western attempts to apply economic pressure on Moscow "run the risk of boomeranging".

One scholar wrote: "Using trade as a weapon frequently backfires so that the marksman often ends up wounding not only the victim but himself as well."

Mr. Kohn said it was an academic point anyway, because only the United States had pushed hard for trade restrictions.

Soviet subsidies and aid to Eastern Europe would continue, but the "unpromising character" of the Soviet Union's own economy would force it to demand greater economic benefits in return, he added.

A major constraint on Soviet trade with the West was its lack of foreign exchange and that was unlikely to change soon, CIA analyst Mr. Joan Zoetler said.

Dollar, sterling soar

FRANKFURT (R) — The dollar reached a six-month high in Frankfurt and another all-time record in Paris Monday as dealers said the Western economic summit at Williamsburg had so far been inconclusive.

Continued expectations of high U.S. interest rates, making the dollar attractive to investors, pushed the currency to 2.5155 marks from Friday's close of 2.5075.

In Paris the dollar opened at a record 7.5425 francs after closing on Friday at 7.5265.

Dealers said the seven heads of government meeting at Williamsburg had shown no sign of any serious move to curb the dollar's strength on world markets by intervention.

A draft final statement called for greater economic cooperation, monetary stability and more jobs, but made no mention of the possibility of an international conference on monetary reform, particularly sought by France but resisted by Washington.

Dealers said the U.S. authorities now had little room to cut interest rates following the announcement on Friday of a \$2.1 billion rise in U.S. money supply, after a \$7 billion rise announced the previous week.

Sterling also opened higher here Monday on continued expectations of a Conservative victory in the British general election on June 9, rising to 4.0395 marks from Friday's close at 4.0085.

The U.S. dollar rose in late Hong Kong trading to 2.5148 marks, having eased as Asian exchanges began their week while dealers awaited an outcome from the Williamsburg summit.

The Hong Kong dollar eased Monday to 7.13 to the U.S. dollar from Friday's closing level of 7.07 as its trade-weighted index, measuring its 1981 value against 15 major currencies, fell 0.1 points to a record low of 73.9.

In Tokyo, the U.S. dollar closed at its highest level against the Japanese yen since April 14, at 238.45 yen after opening at 237.95.

Markets in London and the United States are closed Monday for public holidays.

OPEC to meet in June to discuss judicial tribunal

BAHRAIN (R) — Officials from Arab oil states will meet next month to study Syrian reservations over rules of procedure of an OPEC judicial tribunal, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday.

The Nicosia-based oil industry journal gave no date for the meeting of officials from the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in the Saudi Arabian summer resort of Taif.

But it said that if no agreement was reached, an extraordinary session of the OPEC ministerial council would be held in Ramadan, the Muslim fasting month between mid-June and mid-July, to take final action.

MEES said these steps were

decided at a regular meeting of the OPEC ministerial council in Damascus last week.

The first case referred to the tribunal soon after it was established a year ago was a dispute arising from Syria's closure of pipelines carrying Iraqi crude to Mediterranean terminals across Syrian territory.

Syria has said the tribunal is not competent to deal with the Iraqi complaint since its procedural rules have not finally been adopted.

With its southern oil terminals already blocked by the war with Iran, the pipeline closure further hurt Iraq.

Syria, a political foe of Iraq, backs Iran in the Gulf conflict.

The tribunal has met several times at OPEC headquarters in Kuwait to hear the Iraqi complaint but has not passed any judgement.

MEES said Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani will head the Taif meeting in his capacity as the current chairman of the OPEC ministerial council, with Syrian Oil Minister Abdul Jabbar Al Dahhak and the tribunal members in attendance.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman Al Mansouri, undersecretary for political affairs at the Saudi foreign ministry, is chairman of the tribunal of 11 judges.

OPEC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Syria and Iraq.

Egypt's membership has been suspended.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"My hat is equipped with air bags. If I miss a shot, I can bang my head against a tree without hurting myself!"

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning can bring some problems you do not need, but the afternoon finds you able to overcome obstacles easily. Listen closely to suggestions made by close ties.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Avoid calling on a difficult person early in the day. Be alert to carelessness on the part of others. Use good judgment.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A financial matter needs more study before making a definite decision. Make this a most worthwhile day.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show others that you have poise if some unusual situation comes up today. Be sure not to lose your temper with anyone.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A private matter could be upsetting early in the day, but later everything works out to your advantage.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Get rid of whatever is not practical in the morning and later you can be happy with your friends. Relax at home tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can take care of an important home matter early in the day and later expand where your career is concerned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Avoid changing present arrangement at work until you have first studied it well. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Find a much better way of carrying through with agreements you have made with others. Strive to be more successful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Steer clear of an irate associate in the morning and later all will straighten out. Safeguard your reputation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Use extreme care in handling all work ahead of you and avoid possible trouble. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Doing something special for persons you really like brings excellent results at this time. Express happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Avoid arguments at home early in the day and later there will be real harmony. Make long-range plans for the future.

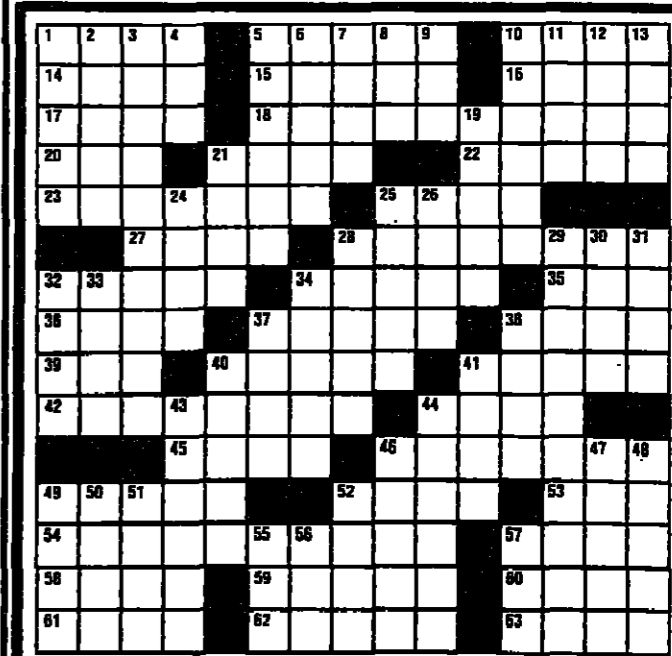
IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those capable young persons who can get at the core of a situation and then know how best to handle it. Be sure to give chores early in life that could pave the way to success later. Give fine spiritual training.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

by Fran Ragus

ACROSS	27 Lesson	49 Therefore, humorously	25 Debra of movies
1 Nine inches	28 Railing	52 Headliner	26 Burden
5 Bette of movies	32 Brimless hat	53 Dutch city	28 Pretty, in Scotland
10 Notorious	34 Spurious	54 Dance of yore	29 Italian dance
Updalen	35 Brazilian tree	57 Seaweed	30 Grandiose
14 Spotless	36 Astonish	58 Thaw	31 Latest fashion
15 Ignore	37 Sound units	60 Attired	32 Despot
16 Adriatic	38 Pedant	61 Lesson	33 Director
17 Secure	39 Devoured	62 Skeleton items	34 Dutch quarrel
18 Brazilian dances	40 Exhausted	63 Grant of movies	37 Petty
20 Resister, for short	41 Absence of strife	DOWN	38 Equal
21 Secure	42 Cloney	1 Burning particle	40 Diminutive
22 Gladiator's milieu	44 Noted	2 Soup	41 Bartlett or Rosc
23 Most sharp	45 Angora and Persian	3 Ballet positions	43 Two-handed card game
25 Harbor	46 Car part	4 Beak	44 Positions
		5 Degrade	46 Cache
		6 Upward	47 Rice
		7 Clamp	48 Burroughs
		8 Psyche divisions	49 Prepared
		9 Red or Black	50 Ostrich's relative
		10 Cuts short	51 Fuel abbr.
		11 Motivate	52 Bandleader
		12 Persia	53 Kenton
		13 Astronaut's org.	55 Recede
		14 Nostril	56 Canals in Michigan
		21 Withered	57 Language case: abbr.
		24 Part of speech	



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WORLD

Opinion polls indicate landslide victory for British Conservatives

LONDON (R) — The British general election campaign entered its last full week Monday with opinion polls predicting a landslide victory for the ruling Conservatives.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who is seeking a second term of office on June 9, was due to return from the Western economic summit in Williamsburg Monday to resume campaigning.

Her party, with the support of between 46 and 49 per cent of those questioned, was at least 16 per cent ahead of the opposition Labour Party in weekend polls. Labour had 30 to 31.5 per cent support and the fledgling Centrist Alliance 18 to 23.

Leaders of the Alliance of Liberals and the new Social Democratic Party (SDP), who are seeking to break the two-party mould in British politics, held a strategy meeting in Scotland and, pointing to a slight improvement in the Alliance's showing in the polls, said Labour was already a spent force.

But Labour leader Michael Foot said in a television interview that he remained optimistic despite his party's poor showing.

British police said last week they had given extra protection to Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Foot and Alliance leaders Roy Jenkins and David Steel because of indications that Irish Republican Army guerrillas (IRA) were planning a political assassination.

At its meeting Sunday, the Alliance decided to adopt what it called a higher profile and give Mr. Steel, the Liberal Party's popular leader, a larger role in its television campaign.

Mr. Steel is second only to Mrs. Thatcher in opinion polls on Britain's choice for prime minister, but Mr. Jenkins remains the Alliance's prime minister designate.

Steel and Jenkins said they would limit attacks on the other parties and concentrate on Alliance policies in the hope of wooing disillusioned Labour supporters or Conservative voters wary of too extreme a brand of conservatism.

Conservatives have responded by turning to the Alliance.

IRA suspect discovered in his home

TRALEE, Ireland (R) — One of two Irishmen suspected of plotting to kill a British political leader during the general election campaign surfaced here Sunday to condemn the claim as an "election ploy".

British police said they feared an Irish Republican Army (IRA) hit-squad was planning attacks on politicians and that Irish activist Sean O'Callaghan had slipped into Britain.

However, O'Callaghan, 30, insisted he had not been in Britain since 1978 and rejected reports he had been active in the IRA which is fighting British rule in Northern Ireland.

They are still hunting the second named man, 30-year-old John Downey, who is wanted in connection with two bombings in London last year in which eight soldiers were killed.

Former SS officer tried for massacre in France

EAST BERLIN (R) — Former Nazi SS officer Heinz Barth, on trial for war crimes, went in court Monday as he admitted helping to kill some of the 642 French villagers massacred at Oradour-sur-Glane during World War II.

Barth, who showed little emotion during the first three days of the trial last week, broke down as he told presiding judge Heinz Hugot how he led a firing squad that shot 20 of the villagers in western France in 1944.

He is charged with his part in the massacre and with helping to kill 92 Czechs in 1942.

Barth, a platoon leader in the SS "Das Reich" division, said his unit had encircled the village, searched houses and rounded up civilians.

They herded 20 men from one part of the village into a garage and gunned them down. "I also shot with my submachine-gun," Barth said.

Barth, who was a lieutenant, repeatedly said he never questioned his orders to do what he did.

"I was told that a place was to be annihilated — all the people to be killed and the village burned... I assumed it was because partisans

were staying there," Barth said.

He told the judge he had heard that reprisals were to be carried out against the population for the disappearance of a Maj. Kaempfe, an SS battalion commander in Barth's regiment.

Asked if he thought the order justified, he said: "I carried out my orders. I saw it as something that happens in a war."

Judge Hugot asked him if he felt any emotion when he first saw the village. "The order was clear. We never talked about it, never thought about it. Everyone was to be shot," he answered.

The specific charge against Barth says there were 64 primary school-children among those rounded up by his unit. The judge pressed Barth to say whether he was clear that the orders included killing children. "I had my orders, which I understood as total annihilation," he said.

Barth said one villager pleaded to be reprieved because he was a civilian working for the German occupying forces. "I went to the battalion commander but I got a short sharp answer. The man had seen too much. He was to be shot," he said.

S. Korean politician to continue hunger strike

SEOUL (R) — Former opposition leader Kim Young-Sam said Monday he had been freed from house arrest but would continue a 13-day-old hunger strike until the government restored full democracy in South Korea.

Mr. Kim, 55, who had been under house arrest since June last year, was taken forcibly from his home by police last Wednesday to a hospital where he refused food and medication.

"A high official from the government visited me last (Sunday) night and said that my house arrest was being lifted without any conditions from midnight," Kim told reporters.

Aides said riot police and plainclothesmen, who had guarded both the hospital and his home turning away visitors to Mr. Kim, withdrew after midnight.

Mr. Kim, lying in bed at the Seoul National University Hospital, his face emaciated, greeted local and foreign reporters with a smile.

"I don't feel well, but I can continue. Thank you all," he said.

Aides said Mr. Kim had no definite plans at the moment to return home and would remain in hospital. "As long as he continues fasting it does not matter where he does it," they said.

Eleven former members of the non-defunct main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP), who had joined Mr. Kim in the hunger strike to back his demands, were also freed from house arrest from Monday, the aides said.

As NDP leader, Mr. Kim was regarded by many as a presidential contender when he was first placed under house arrest in May 1980. This followed the declaration of full martial law after student riots throughout the country.

He was released later but confined again after giving an interview to the New York Times last year in which he criticised the government.

The aides said Mr. Kim was continuing his hunger strike because the lifting of his house arrest was not among his demands to the government, which mainly concerned a return to democracy.

U.S. envoy to Salvador to be replaced in Shake-up

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia (R) — President Reagan, continuing a shakeup of his advisers on Central America, is replacing ambassador to El Salvador Deane Hinton, U.S. officials said.

The latest move, expected to be formally announced shortly, followed Friday's removal of Thomas Enders, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

The officials described Mr. Hinton's replacement as a routine reassignment, saying said he had done an arduous job carrying out the U.S. policy of helping the Salvadoran government in its long struggle against leftist guerrillas. But the move intensified speculation that Mr. Reagan was dissatisfied with the execution of his controversial Central American policy.

Mr. Enders will be replaced by

ambassador to Brazil Langhorne Motley if the Senate confirms the nomination. There was no immediate indication at the seven-nation economic summit here of who will be named to succeed Mr. Hinton in El Salvador.

He was picked for the post by Alexander Haig, Mr. Reagan's first secretary of state who resigned last June after personality and policy conflicts with members of the White House staff.

Mr. Enders was criticised for arguing the U.S. must try harder to end the civil war in El Salvador through negotiation with the guerrillas even while the military campaign continues.

The officials said the two job changes did not foreshadow more U.S. military involvement in Central America.

Soviet scientists create artificial Venus rocks

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet scientists have created artificial "samples" of the rocks covering most of the surface of the planet Venus, a Moscow newspaper reported Sunday.

The daily Komsomolskaya Pravda said the specimens were produced in a long series of laboratory experiments based on data from two Soviet space probes which landed on Venus last year and sent back details of soil composition.

It quoted the head of the Moscow laboratory, Yuri Surkov, as saying it was the first time the surface rocks of another planet had been successfully recreated on earth.

One of the space probes landed on a hill on Venus and the other in a valley. The combined information from them gave a profile of surface conditions which are typical for 90 per cent of the planet, Prof. Surkov said.

The probes had confirmed earlier theories that Venus is covered in basalt-type rock of volcanic origin, he said.

Rocks similar to those in the val-

leys of the planet can be found at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean but there is no equivalent on earth to the basalt found in the hills, he added.

Taking samples of basalt from Siberia's Baikal region, which came closest to the Venusian material, Prof. Surkov's team carried out dozens of chemical experiments until they produced a material identical in its composition to the data on Venus's rocks.

This involved adding sulphur, chlorine and fluorine to the basalt and recreating the formative conditions on Venus, where the surface temperature is 500 celsius (over 900 Fahrenheit).

Komsomolskaya Pravda described the resulting rock sample as black, very dense and heavy and with a dull glass-like glitter at the edges.

Prof. Surkov said the experiment was of immense value to scientists researching the origins of the solar system and the earth's surface conditions on Venus today resembled those on our planet four billion years ago.

Council of Europe asks Turkey to commute 44 death sentences

STRASBOURG, France (R) — The council of Europe's parliamentary assembly Monday asked Turkish President Gen. Kenan Evren to commute 44 death sentences passed by Turkish military courts last week.

In a telegram to Gen. Evren, the assembly president, West German Social Democrat parliamentarian Karl Ahrens, voiced concern about the sentences.

"I urge you to exercise your prerogative to grant clemency," Mr. Ahrens said.

Last week Turkish military courts sentenced to death 35 Kurds

for establishing a Kurdish nationalist movement as well as nine alleged members of the Turkish People's Communist Party Front (THKP-C) for political crimes.

Turkey's relations with the 21-nation Council of Europe, of which it is a member, have been strained since the military takeover in September 1980.

The ruling junta will have to defend itself before the European human rights commission next October after allegations by five Council of Europe countries that Turkey mistreated prisoners and restricted trade union freedoms.

Lebanese 'Wild West' town stays unflustered

By Alan Philips

Reuter

SHTOURA, Lebanon — A two-second burst of automatic rifle fire echoed through the streets of this crossroads town lying behind the massed tanks and troops of the Syrian army in eastern Lebanon.

None of the soldiers, Palestinian guerrillas or shoppers in the run-down streets turned their heads at the all-too-familiar bark of the Kalashnikov rifle.

It could have been the settlement of a factional feud, an irate driver firing in the air to clear a traffic jam or — more likely — a teenage gunman cleaning his weapon.

The people of Shtoura, a lawless place sometimes compared with America's old Wild West, appear just as unconcerned at reports of high tension on the Syrian-Israeli front-line some 18 kilometres to the south.

State-run Beirut Radio said Israeli planes Saturday came under anti-aircraft fire in Syrian-controlled northern Lebanon, adding to fears of an imminent showdown in the Bekaa Valley between Israel and Syria, both of whom have accused the other of preparing to attack.

Israeli army officers also reported that Syrian troops were seen leaving the Shtoura area, apparently at the end of Syrian manoeuvres which led Israel to put its forces on high alert.

But on a drive through the Bekaa Saturday there was no sign of troop movements apart from the normal flow of mainly empty trucks heading back and forth over the Syrian border to the east.

"Everything is quiet"

A taxi driver waiting for a fare by a petrol station bombed out during last summer's brief Israeli-Syrian battles said: "It's been quiet here all day."

During a stopover in Shtoura to change taxis — a common practice in Lebanon where drivers fear to cross territory held by hostile armies or factional groups — not even a burst of gunfire disturbed the shoppers in the spring sunshine.

A Syrian paratrooper in red and green camouflage who hitched a ride from the Syrian border said he was less worried by the Israelis than what his captain would say when he returned late from leave.

Syria is estimated to have upwards of 40,000 troops in northern and eastern Lebanon which Israel says have recently been boosted by new commando units and supplies of Soviet-made tanks and heavy weapons.

They are flanked by at least 8,000 Palestinian guerrillas of various factions who have offices in the backstreets of Shtoura and nearby towns dotted among the orchards and fields of the valley floor.

The other side of the front-line, Israel is said to have boosted its estimated 25,000 men and reinforced forward positions.

None of these reported military moves appear to have much effect on Shtoura, where the streets have been crowded with Syrian soldiers and Palestinian fighters since Israel invaded Lebanon last June.

New Turkish left-of-centre party formed

ANKARA (R) — The son of one of Turkey's major political heroes has announced he is forming a new party, the fifth to emerge since the ruling generals lifted a ban on politics ahead of November general elections.

Erdal Inonu, son of the late former prime minister and president, Ismet Inonu, told reporters: "Our party's programme will have similarities with Social Democratic parties in the Western context, but we will also take the realities of our country into effect."

The party is expected to draw support from many devotees of the old Republican People's Party (RPP), led for many years by Ismet Inonu but banned along with all parties after the 1980 military coup.

Elections for a new civilian government have been set for Nov. 6. Parties are not yet allowed to campaign publicly.

Mr. Inonu's party, expected to be officially registered shortly, is the second left-of-centre group to be formed since the ban on politics was lifted last month.

On the right-of-centre, three parties have registered.

Ismet Inonu was the trusted lieutenant of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of the Turkish republic, and his name still has considerable political mystique.

Mrs. Gandhi campaigns in violent northern state

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi opened a three-day campaign tour Monday in the northern Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir where latest estimates said 1,000 people were injured in pre-election clashes Sunday.

The violence erupted between supporters of rival parties for next Sunday's state election, including Kashmir's ruling National Conference Party and Mrs. Gandhi's Congress (I).

Mrs. Gandhi, addressing election meetings in the southern Jammu region of the sensitive frontier state, alleged people were being threatened with dire consequences if votes were not polled for the National Conference, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

She called on voters not to be intimidated by what she called threats and violence.

PTI reported that 1,000 people were hurt in Sunday's pitched battles.

It said the violence, in which rival groups used knives and hurled stones, broke out as a convoy

of trucks and buses carrying National Conference supporters drove through several villages in the Kashmir Valley.

In one township there was an exchange of gunfire between two clashing groups, and there were also reports of vehicles being burned and shops and houses looted, PTI said.

Alleging the National Conference had resorted to violence, Mrs. Gandhi asked: "Is this democracy?"

She said Congress (I) believed in fair and free elections. It had been defeated in polls in the southern states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka in January and had bowed to the wishes of the people.

About 1,500 people have been reported injured so far in clashes during the campaign for the 76-seat state assembly. At least three people have died.

The Ruling National Conference is led by Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, son of Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, "the lion of Kashmir," who died last September.

Papandreou meets Kyprianou

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou has discussed the Cyprus problem with Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou and said later that cooperation between Athens and Nicosia was very close.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Mr. Kyprianou said the leaders faced "with calm and firmness" the Turkish reaction to

this month's U.N. resolution calling for the withdrawal of Turkish troops from the island.

He was referring to reports which said leaders of Turkish Cypriots, who make up about 18 per cent of the island's 700,000 population, had threatened to declare an independent separate state in northern Cyprus, occupied by Turkish troops.

Oldest Soviet politburo member dies at 84

MOSCOW (R) — The oldest member of the Soviet Union's ruling politburo, Arvid Pelshe, has died at the age of 84, his office said Monday.

A spokeswoman did not give the cause of his death.

Mr. Pelshe was a Latvian who for years headed the party's watchdog control commission. His last public appearance was at Kremlin celebrations for the anniversary of Lenin's birth on April 22.

Mr. Pelshe was the only surviving member of the politburo who joined the Bolshevik Party before the 1917 revolution and met Lenin.

His death reduces to 11 the number of members of the politburo, which is headed by Yuri Andropov.

The death of Mr. Pelshe could give Mr. Andropov an opportunity to promote another

member of the party hierarchy and strengthen his position at an expected party plenum next month.

Mr. Pelshe stayed in the background of the politburo line-up to which he was elected in 1966. He was the first Latvian to serve in the top leadership ranks.

He was born on Feb. 7, 1899 into a peasant family in the Bauska district not far from the Latvian capital, Riga.

Mr. Pelshe joined the Communist Party when he was just 16, leaving Latvia to take an active part in the October revolution which put the Bolsheviks in power.

His first jobs as a party official spanned farming in Kazakhstan and teaching in the Red Army. Much of his work until 1940 was for the security police.

After the World War II he began his rise to power in his homeland of Latvia.

ILO to study ways to eliminate child labour

Dragging its feet

GENEVA (R) — A call for progressive elimination of child labour across the world will be the dominant theme of the annual conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) opening on Wednesday.

The ILO, with some 150 member-states, watches over labour rights around the globe.

The delegates are also asking how Poland, if it does participate, will react to continued ILO criticism and whether the organisation risks poisoning its relations with the whole Soviet bloc.

On child labour, the conference will consider a report on the 50 to 100 million of the world's children whose employment, at long hours and low pay, ILO Director-General Francis Blanchard calls "an affront to our conscience."

In addition, the conference will hear speeches by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke as well as considering a proposed ILO code which would guarantee the right to work and encourage states to find measures to uphold it.

The Polish inquiry was decided on after several requests for information or for the green light to send an ILO fact-finding mission were rejected.

The governing body wanted Poland, a charter member of the ILO, to justify its outlawing of the independent trade union Solidarity, its treatment of former union leaders and the restrictive labour law enacted last October.

After the inquiry was approved, the Soviet Union said Warsaw might have to reconsider its further activities in the ILO and questioned the objectivity of ILO committee reports which review each member's record in respecting labour codes.

Western diplomats at the session told Reuters that Moscow's approach seemed to be hardening, as the ILO focused more on Poland.

ILO sources said Moscow has been dragging its feet on an organisation request for a fact-finding mission to be allowed to investigate charges that slave labour was used in construction of the Siberian natural gas pipeline.

Moscow invited an ILO team to make a visit late last year, they said, but balked at the conditions the ILO set for inspecting work sites and labourers.

In his main report to the conference, Blanchard called for the "progressive elimination of unacceptable labour by those too young to undertake it."

He cited cases of children working in mines, employed as seasonal help in peat bogs, soaked fields or forced to risk their eyesight by installing tiny wires in electronic equipment.

He said member states should consider strict bans on work hazardous to children, the strengthening of inspection arrangements where they do work and improved educational opportunities.

With over 500 million people unemployed or underemployed around the world, ILO members have also been considering new global standards which could guarantee the right to work.

Such standards would not be legally binding but ratifying them would imply that governments meant to do their best to ensure all able-bodied citizens had the opportunity to work.

Answering an ILO question on the issue, 60 countries from East and West Europe and the Third World agreed that the right to work code should promote "full, productive and freely chosen employment."

Eight nations, including the United States, Britain, West Germany and Italy, answered in the negative or disagreed with the wording of the question.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Poll reveals world ignorant about Arabs

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (R) — Many people in the United States, France and Japan believe all Arabs are either oil-rich sheikhs or nomads living in North Africa, according to a recent report. The report, published in the daily Khaleej Times, was based on a survey in the three countries commissioned by the United Arab Emirates' (UAE's) information and culture ministry. It did not say how many people were polled. Nearly 50 per cent of Americans think all Arabs are oil-rich sheikhs, 41 per cent of Frenchmen believe they live in North Africa and, while three in every four Japanese see them as oil-rich.

Trouble on board Soviet cruiser

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet navy has had to deal with serious discipline problems among the crew of one of its strategic command ships, the cruiser Zhdanov, according to a magazine report. "The ideological journal 'Communist of the Armed Forces' gave no details of the trouble on board the warship, which is based in the Black Sea, but it made clear it had caused deep concern among naval chiefs. The author of the report, Rear-Adm. E. Zimin, said there had been "deviations from the demands of our regulations and our moral norms" among the sailors and "flagrant violations of military discipline."

Charter 77 member freed from jail

VIENNA (R) — Václav Benda, 36, a spokesman of the Czechoslovak Charter 77 human rights movement, has been released after four years in prison on charges of subversion, emigre sources here said. Benda, a computer programmer, was sentenced in Oct. 1979 with five others, including prominent playwright Václav Havel. The trial aroused strong criticism in the West. Benda was one of three Charter 77 spokesmen, all prominent members of the Committee for the Defence of the Unjustly Persecuted (VONS), at the time of his arrest in May 1979.

White Zimbabwean couple murdered

HARARE (R) — A white farmer and his wife have been murdered in Zimbabwe's Mashonaland province, farming sources said Monday. Barry and Diana Brooke were found dead Sunday at their Glendale farm, about 60 kilometres northeast of Harare. They had been shot. The sources said they suspected that the killers were after money. Mrs. Brooke's body was found near a cash safe and that of her husband was outside their home, they added.

Ugandan Red Cross gets rough treatment

KAMPALA (R) — A Roman Catholic priest has said that he and officials of the Uganda Red Cross had been flailed with steel whips by soldiers who mistook them for guerrillas while they were delivering food to refugees. Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe, director of social services in the Kampala arch diocese, told reporters the relief workers were stopped in the Lowero district north east of Kampala after they had accidentally separated from their armed security escort. He said the soldiers threatened to kill them and agreed to their release only after arrival of the relief team's security squad. All relief food they were carrying was confiscated, he said.

Mild earthquake shakes Tehran

LONDON (R) — A mild earthquake registering 4.5 on the open-ended Richter scale shook parts of Tehran Sunday night, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties, the national Iranian news agency IRNA reported. The agency, monitored in London, quoted the geophysical Institute of Tehran University as saying the epicentre was 80 kilometres southeast of the Iranian capital. It struck at 8.45 p.m. local time (1715 GMT).

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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HOLD THAT STOPPER!

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ Void
 ♥ Q9754
 ♦ A109
 ♣ KQ976
WEST EAST
 ♠ K98654 ♠ J1073
 ♥ 8632 ♥ Void
 ♦ 2 ♦ J7654
 ♣ 43 ♣ AJ102

SOUTH
 ♠ AQ2
 ♥ AKJ10
 ♦ K883
 ♣ 85
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1♥ Pass 2♣ Pass
 3NT Pass 6♥ Pass
 Pass Pass
 Opening lead: Two of ♠.

Distribution can play strange tricks with seemingly impregnable contracts. But rash play when one is faced with a distributional quirk can be as costly.

North-South conducted a sensible auction to arrive at their optimum spot. South showed a hand stronger than a one no trump opening bid when he jumped in no trump at his second turn. With superb fit for South's suit and first- or second-round control of every side suit, North bid what he expected to make.

West led his low diamond, and dummy's nine won the trick. It was obvious to all

that one of the defenders held a singleton diamond, but even so, declarer expected no trouble with the hand—until he led a trump to his king and East shuffled a diamond. Now it was obvious that it was West who held the singleton diamond.

Declarer panicked. He could not afford to lead a club to the king immediately lest West obtain a diamond ruff, so he decided he had to ruff spades. He cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade, came back to hand with the ten of trumps and ruffed his remaining spade. He overtook the queen of trumps and drew the remainder of the trumps. Next he cashed out his diamonds. When he finally led a club,